

B.I.R.D. - Bird Information Research and Data

2018 Program Report

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation

2018 Educational Programs



Bander John Kell introducing a bird to kids

- Connected with **3496** visitors
- Year-round public banding days and bird hikes
- Public bird programs scheduled each season for a variety of age levels & interests
- Bird programs for school field trips, universities, garden clubs, nature club, AP Environmental Science students, summer camps and other groups scheduled by request
- Special Bird Celebration events held in February, April, August and October each year
- Additional programs for “Year of the Bird” to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the Migratory Bird Act
- Public invited to observe and participate in bird research projects and get involved with citizen science

2018 Research Projects

1. **Long-term Fall Migration Bird Banding Project & Banding Station** (1982); focus on long-term trends in species composition, numbers, longevity, & importance of Park as migratory stop-over site
2. **Long-term Winter Bird Banding Project** (1983); focus on long-term trends in species composition, numbers, timing of arrival & departure of winter residents, and species longevity
3. **Long-term Spring Migration Bird Banding Project** (1983); focus on long-term trends in species composition, timing & health/condition of migrating birds, and species longevity
4. **MAPS - Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship** (1991) Institute of Bird Populations; continent-wide collaborative banding effort; to research bird populations, understand breeding habitat, and relationship between population changes and weather, climate, and habitat loss
5. **Breeding Bird Survey** (1985); modeled after national Breeding Bird Survey to track status and trends of breeding bird populations in North America
6. **Bluebird Nesting Box Project** (1936); Diana McLusky coordinator; started by Amelia Laskey, nationally known ornithologist; focus on occupancy rate and breeding success
7. **Purple Martin Nest Box Project** (2002); Heather Gallagher coordinator; assess population & timing
8. **Hummingbird Banding Project** (2002); Heather Gallagher coordinator; focus on health, timing, and numbers of migrating hummingbirds
9. **Metro Parks Hummingbird Banding Projects**; Bells Bend (2009) Kathy Shaw coordinator. And Beaman and Shelby Bottoms (2011), Sandy Bivens coordinator
10. **Project FeederWatch** (1997) Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon, Melissa Donahue coordinator; long-term trends in distribution & abundance
11. **eBird** (2015) Cornell Lab of Ornithology & National Audubon; sightings, banding, historical data; hummingbird data 2018; documents distribution, abundance, habitat use, trends through checklist data
12. **Bird Genoscape Project** (2015) with UCLA Center for Tropical Research; Laura Cook coordinator; maps population-specific routes of migratory songbirds to develop conservation strategies
13. **Fall, Winter and Spring Bird Counts** (1927) in partnership with the Nashville Chapter of Tennessee Ornithological Society; assess long-term population trends
14. **iNaturalist Project** (2018) California Academy of Sciences & National Geographic Society; Patty Ghertner coordinator, citizen-science project to identify & document species; Warner Park Biodiversity Project
15. **Barn Swallow Survey** (2018) Laura Cook coordinator; assess population trends; project contributes to iNaturalist Swallow Tracker Project



White-eyed Vireo



Indigo Bunting



Eastern Bluebird nest

BIRD Program in an “Egg Shell”	2018
Research and Projects	15 Projects
Bird Banding Station	49 Banding sessions and 943 birds banded / recaptured
Participants and Programs	3496 Visitors and participants and 60 bird programs presented
BIRD Volunteers	Team of 54 trained volunteers including Assistant BIRD Coordinator
Volunteer Hours Contributed	2051 Volunteer hours and 619 visits
Partner Organizations	21 Partners
BIRD Intern	1 Intern funded by Lipscomb University Biology Department
BIRD Staff	2 (starting 1 May) part-time staff funded by Friends of Warner Parks



Some of the M.A.P.S. Banding Team Volunteers

2018 Highlights

- Kathy Shaw, Volunteer Assistant BIRD Coordinator, was honored at the Mary Catherine Strobel Awards Ceremony for her over 20 years of volunteer dedication to the BIRD Program!
- BIRD volunteers Allison Salas, Kathy Shaw and Sandy Bivens authored Consider the Indigo Bunting in the *TN Conservationist*.
- For the third year, the Lipscomb University Biology Department and Dr. John Lewis partnered with the nature center and FOWP to fund a summer BIRD Intern; LU Biology student Sarah McCune was the 2018 BIRD Intern.
- The second annual, "Hummingbird Happy Hour an evening of art and jazz for the birds," event was chaired by Beth Preston and Linda Breggin. This sold out event raised \$14,500 to support bird education and research! Listed in NFocus Best Parties 2018.
- Special bird photography exhibit by Chris Sloan, Graham Gerdeman and Ed Schneider opened at the Hummingbird Happy Hour and remained until the end of the year. Sales from the exhibit supported bird education and research.
- Two new BIRD projects added; iNaturalist & Barn Swallow Survey
- Banded the first ever Barn Swallows (nestlings) at Warner Park
- Caught a snake (midland water) in a mist net for the first time ever
- Laura Cook, a volunteer since 2016, joined the BIRD staff and will transition into the coordinator position in 2019.
- Special thanks to the B.I.R.D. subcommittee led by Board Member Chris Sloan, with John Lewis, Janeth McKendrick, Kathy Shaw, Diana McLusky, John Kell, Graham Gerdeman, Vera Roberts and Mark Weller.



Photo by Graham Gerdeman

Second Annual Hummingbird Happy Hour,

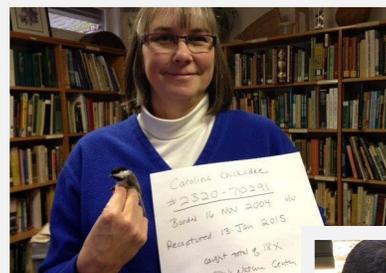
Co-chairs Beth Preston and Linda Breggin

Jazz artists, Annie Sellick and Pat Bergeson

2018 Volunteers

- Volunteers contributed **2051 hours** and **619 visits**
- A dedicated & expert team of **54 volunteers** made these programs and projects possible:

Kathy Shaw	Rebecca Dandekar	Denise Weyer
Diana McLusky	Margie Hunter	Melissa Donahue
Susan Bradfield	Beth Preston	Heather Gallagher
Ethel Kawamura	Jean Louise Barnes	Vera Roberts
Laura Cook	The Barnes Family	Cody Cook
Kim Bailey	Laurie Campbell	Haley Powell
Rachel Anderson	Katie Doyle	Terry Cook
John Kell	MaryGlen Williamson	Beth Adams
Leah LaRocco	Linda Breggin	Barbara Kell
Melinda Welton	Sarah MCune	Johnny Rose
Sue Shallow	Justin Hiltner	Matt Wilkins
Allison Salas	Bob Parrish	Sandra Smith
Marion Praitt	Julie Petcu	Kelly Longenecker
Cheryl Brummal	Matt Jenkins	Emma Miller
Amy Potter	Emily Moorman	Robert Boreman
Camille Monohan	Graham Gerdeman	Elizabeth Lamar
Janeth McKendrick	Dr. John Lewis	Margaret Tyler
Patty Ghertner	Chris Sloan	Elizabeth Cook



Kathy Shaw, left, a dedicated volunteer, Assistant Bird Coordinator and Master Bird Bander with a Carolina Chickadee



Laura Cook, left, joined the BIRD Program staff

Matt Wilkins, above, banding barn swallows

2018 BIRD Program Supporters (\$1000 & over)

- Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation
- The Barbara J. Mapp Foundation
- Charles Foundation
- The Wood Thrush Shop
- Margaret Robinson
- Baker, Donelson Bearman, Caldwell, Berkowitz
- Steve and Beth Preston
- CBRE
- Ghertner and Company, Inc
- Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency